

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, ABLD, UR, US

SUBJECT: KIEV AND NEW YORK CONSULATES

SUMMARY: ACTING SOV DIRECTOR BARRY CALLED IN SOVEMB
COUNSELOR MYSHKOV APRIL 22 FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF
KIEV-NEW YORK CONSULATE STAFFING AND REVIEW OF SOVIETS'
RESPONSES TO THE EMBASSY'S MARCH 15 LETTER ON KIEV. WHILE
MFA IS DEALING WITH KIEV QUESTIONS, DEPARTMENT WILL CON-
SIDER QUESTION OF SIZE OF SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY IN NEW YORK.
MYSHKOV'S REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL SECURITY GUARD WAS
APPROVED AND DEPARTMENT AGREED THAT TWO ADDITIONAL
"SPECIALISTS" COULD BE SENT FROM WASHINGTON TO WORK ON
PHYSICAL SECURITY AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL BUILDING FOR
LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME. HOWEVER, MYSHKOV WAS TOLD THAT IF
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WORK BEING PERFORMED IN BUILDING WENT BEYOND SECURITY-

RELATED ACTIVITIES, PERMISSION FOR TDY WOULD LAPSE. END SUM.

1. IN CONVERSATION APRIL 22 AND A BRIEF MEETING APRIL 23, BARRY URGED THAT THE KIEV OFFICIALS RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MARCH 15 LETTER. MYSHKOV SAID HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO HELP ON THIS.

2. BARRY OUTLINED THE EXPECTATION THAT A FOUR-MAN US ADVANCE PARTY WOULD BEGIN ARRIVING IN KIEV IN JULY AND BE IN PLACE BY FALL. HE TOLD MYSHKOV THAT WHEN US ESTABLISHMENT WAS IN FULL OPERATION, STAFF WOULD AMOUNT TO 15-18 PLUS SOVIET LOCALS. THIS REPRESENTS MAXIMUM FORESEEABLE STAFFING LEVEL. ASKED TO PROVIDE HIS BEST ESTIMATE OF SOVIET STAFFING REQUIREMENTS AFTER OPENING, MYSHKOV SAID THAT IN PRINCIPLE SOVIETS BELIEVED SENDING STATES SHOULD DECIDE ON THEIR PERSONNEL NEEDS. HE ARGUED THAT SOVIET SITUATION IN NEW YORK IN NO SENSE COMPARABLE TO US NEEDS IN KIEV, CITING CONSULAR, PROTOCOLARY AND REPRESENTATIONAL WORKLOAD, AND STRESSING SECURITY PROBLEM. WHILE REJECTING ANY KIND OF "FORMULA" SUCH AS THAT US INSISTED UPON IN LENINGRAD, HE PARTICULARLY OBJECTED TO IDEA THAT FORMULA MIGHT BE THE SAME. BARRY NOTED EFFECTIVE CONTROL ON US STAFFING EXERCISED BY MFA IN PROVIDING HOUSING AND DESCRIBED DIFFICULTIES WE ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING IN MOSCOW. HE SAID THAT US WILL DEVISE A STAFFING FORMULA BUT THAT IN DOING SO "OBJECTIVE FACTORS" CITED BY MYSHKOV WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

3. IN ARGUING FOR A LARGE ADVANCE PARTY, MYSHKOV SAID HE EXPECTED TO TAKE OVER PROTOCOL FUNCTIONS NOW BEING PERFORMED BY SMUN--I.E., MEETING AND ACCOMPANYING SOVIET DELEGATIONS--AND NEEDED STAFF FOR RECONFIGURATION WORK. BARRY POINTED OUT THAT GARRISON-VORONTSOV LETTER OF JUNE 18, 1975 SPECIFIED THAT RECONFIGURATION OF KIEV AND NEW YORK BUILDINGS MUST BEGIN SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND THAT ONLY WORK CONNECTED WITH PHYSICAL SECURITY AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF NY BUILDING COULD PROCEED IN MEANTIME. MYSHKOV RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTED THIS POINT AND IT WAS UNDERLINED SEVERAL TIMES IN CONVERSATION SUBSEQUENTLY.

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4. BARRY QUESTIONED MYSHKOV CLOSELY ON WHAT HIS PEOPLE HAD BEEN DOING IN NEW YORK, NAMING 17 PEOPLE WHO APPEARED TO US TO BE WORKING IN CG BUILDING IN NEW YORK, 12 OF WHOM ARE FROM SMUN. MYSHKOV CLAIMED THESE INDIVIDUALS HAD BEEN BORROWED TO HELP WITH CONTRACTING FOR REPAIRS AND SECURITY WORK. BARRY NOTED THAT BUILDING WAS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE PRIOR TO RECONFIGURATION AND POINTED OUT THAT IF SOVIETS IN NY DID NOT ADHERE CLOSELY TO GUIDELINES SET

FORTH IN GARRISON -VORONTSOV LETTER, DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE
TO REVIEW SITUATION. -

5. AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION, BARRY SAID DEPARTMENT MIGHT
AUTHORIZE 7-8 IN SOVIET ADVANCE GROUP, INCLUDING NEW SECURITY
GUARD THEY HAD REQUESTED. MYSHKOV REJECTED THIS AS
TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND, AFTER SOME FENCING, OFFERED "PERSONAL
VIEW" THAT SOME 15 WOULD DO.

6. IN BRIEF MEETING APRIL 23, MYSHKOV WAS TOLD AN ADDITIONAL
SECURITY GUARD WOULD BE APPROVED BUT THAT HE WOULD COUNT
AGAINST SIZE OF NY ADVANCE PARTY. TWO MORE TDY SPECIALISTS
COULD COME TO NY TO HELP WITH SECURITY INSTALLATION, BUT
THEY WOULD BE ASSIGNED TO WASHINGTON AND WOULD HAVE TO
FILE TRAVEL NOTES FROM THERE WITH SPECIFIC RETURN DATES.
SHOULD WORK BE STARTED IN NYC WHICH GOES BEYOND GUIDELINES
SET FORTH IN GARRISON LETTER, ALL FOUR TDY SPECIALISTS
WILL HAVE TO LEAVE NY. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO
GIVE ANSWER ON SIZE OF SOVIET ADVANCE GROUP IN NY IN EARLY
MAY, BUT IN MEANTIME EXPECTS MFA WILL TREAT OUR KIEV
REQUESTS WITH MORE URGENCY.

7. COMMENT: GIVEN SIZE AND FUNGIBILITY OF SOVIET
PRESENCE IN NEW YORK, RESTRICTING NUMBERS IN ADVANCE PARTY
WILL NOT PROVIDE MUCH IN WAY OF LEVERAGE. YET USE OF
BUILDING AND FUNCTIONS PERFORMED MUST BE CLOSELY WATCHED.
WE ARE THINKING IN TERMS OF A SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY OF UP TO
10 UNTIL RECONFIGURATION OF US OB STARTS IN KIEV WITH SOME
SUBSEQUENT INCREASE PROPORTIONAL TO SIZE OF US GROUP IN
KIEV. AS FOR FINAL SIZE OF NY STAFF, WE BELIEVE MYSHKOV'S
ARGUMENTS FOR A DIFFERENT FORMULA THAN THE LENINGRAD/SAN
FRANCISCO RATIO MAY HAVE SOME MERIT. SISCO

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